

Appropriation: National Recreation and Preservation

Mission Overview

The National Recreation and Preservation program contributes to a significant goal for the National Park Service having a focus outside of the national park system: Natural and cultural resources are conserved through formal partnership programs. The NPS provides support to the national preservation program by maintaining a national inventory of historic properties, setting standards for historic preservation, and providing technical preservation assistance. Through several activities, NPS assists, reviews, and coordinates the work of other Federal agencies and non-Federal partners in identifying and protecting historic properties.

Appropriation Overview

The National Recreation and Preservation (NR&P) appropriation covers a broad range of activities relating to outdoor recreation planning; preservation of natural, cultural and historic resources; and environmental compliance. These programs provide a focal point at the Federal level for recreation and preservation planning; the coordination of Federal and State policies, procedures and guidelines; and the provision of technical assistance to Federal, State, and local governments and private organizations. The appropriation is composed of eight budget activities:

Recreation Programs

The Recreation Programs activity includes technical assistance to State and local governments and the transfer of surplus Federal real property to local governments for recreation uses.

Natural Programs

The Natural Programs activity includes the development and completion of Congressionally mandated studies of river and trail routes for possible inclusion in the National Scenic and Historic Trails or Wild and Scenic River Systems; the increase of river and trail opportunities through State and local technical assistance and the National Rivers and National Trails programs; and the management of the National Natural Landmark programs.

Cultural Programs

The Cultural Programs activity includes the management of the National Register of Historic Places; review and certification of application for Federal Tax Credits for Historic Preservation; cultural resources management planning, the National Historic Landmarks program; the Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic America Engineering Record and Historic American Landscapes Survey programs; coordination of Federal archeology programs and the American Battlefield Protection program and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Grants program.

Environmental Compliance and Review

This activity includes the staff resources to review and comment on Environmental Impact Statements, Federal licensing and permitting applications and other actions which may impact areas of NPS jurisdiction.

Grants Administration

The Grants Administration activity covers administrative expenses associated with the Historic Preservation Fund grant programs, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Grants program and the Urban Park and Recreation Fund program.

International Park Affairs

The International Park Affairs activity includes the staff resources to coordinate a number of mandated international assistance, exchange and support functions that meaningfully complement the Service's domestic role.

Heritage Partnership Programs

The Heritage Partnership Programs activity includes financial and technical assistance to Congressionally designated national heritage areas, which are managed by private or State organizations to promote the conservation of natural, historic, scenic and cultural resources. In FY 2007, the Administration proposes to move this activity to the Historic Preservation Fund appropriation.

Statutory or Contractual Aid for Other Activities

Under this activity, the Service provides financial or other assistance in the planning, development, or operation of natural, historical, cultural or recreation areas not managed by the National Park Service.